

October 24, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The Pioneer/Big Rapids: Michigan Supreme Court comes to Big Rapids

"As part of the Court Community Connections program, Michigan Supreme Court justices heard a case at Big Rapids High School on Wednesday. Attorneys made their oral arguments in the case of Lejuan Rambin v. Allstate Insurance Company."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Big Rapids Daily News: Michigan Supreme Court visits Big Rapids

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Prosecutors urge court to deny Joseph Gentz appeal in Jane Bashara murder case

"Prosecutors responded to an appeal filed by the new attorney for Joseph Gentz — the man convicted of murdering a Grosse Pointe Park woman — and are arguing it should be denied. In a document filed with the Michigan Court of Appeals late last week, they said the former handyman, who pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in the January 2012 death of Jane Bashara, can't challenge his plea on appeal unless he has moved to withdraw the plea on the same basis in the trial court."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Senate OKs new sentencing rules for young killers

"The Michigan Senate has approved new sentencing rules after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down mandatory life-without parole sentences for juveniles. Legislation passed 36-0 Thursday would apply in future criminal cases, but not retroactively to Michigan's roughly 360 inmates who were under 18 when they committed crimes. However, federal courts have been ordering re-sentencing of those convicted earlier."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: State Senate OKs new sentencing rules for young killers

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Lansing walkway named for longtime AG Frank Kelley

"Longtime Michigan Attorney General Frank Kelley says he's extremely honored and humbled to have a pedestrian walkway in Lansing named after him.... The walkway connects the Michigan Capitol building with the Hall of Justice and various state departments. It will be known as the Frank J. Kelley Capitol Walkway after a dedication ceremony on Wednesday."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Capitol walkway honoring former AG Kelley dedicated

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Michigan 'eternal general' Frank Kelley gets philosophical at ceremony in his honor

[Full story](#)

Bay City Times: Bay City man who had sex assault conviction overturned faces new trial

"A Bay City man whose 2011 conviction on a sexual assault charge involving a 4-year-old girl was overturned by the Michigan Supreme Court is headed to trial for a second time. A preliminary examination in the case of David B. Burns, 26, on Wednesday, Oct. 23, ended with Bay County District Judge Mark E. Janer binding the case over to Circuit Court, where Burns is to face trial."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Grand Rapids District Court Judge Benjamin Logan in medically induced coma following heart attack

"Grand Rapids District Court Judge Benjamin Logan is in a medically induced coma following a heart attack on the stand. Doctors at Spectrum Health Butterworth Hospital are optimistic that 69-year-old Logan will recover from the episode, but they are waiting to see whether the heart attack impacted his brain functions, according to John Beason, a longtime friend and Logan's former law partner in the early 1980s."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

WOOD-TV(8)/Grand Rapids: Sources: Judge suffered heart attack

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: New York law firm embroiled in legal battle with Cooley Law School asks court to unseal records

"In the midst of a prolonged legal battle, a New York law firm is asking a federal judge to unseal court records that it says would help residents evaluate Thomas M. Cooley Law School's 'public relations campaign' against the firm. A federal judge last month dismissed a defamation lawsuit brought by Cooley against Kurzon Strauss LLP in response to the law firm's claim that Cooley misrepresented its post-graduate employment statistics."

[Full story](#)

Hometown Life Newspapers: Canton Historical Society offers frights, tea parties

"Proving it is an eclectic group, the Canton Historical Society is offering Halloween-season ghost stories and afternoon tea parties amid a 1900 setting – all to raise money to help preserve the community's history. First up, 35th District Judge Ron Lowe, perhaps better known for putting the fear in criminals who appear before him than for scaring law-abiding folks, is bringing his ghost stories to Canton's Summit on the Park ballroom 6-7:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 27."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Panel promotes cultural diversity in judicial system

"Great progress has been made in introducing diversity into our local legal system, but we still have a long way to go. That was the conclusion of a panel of prosecutors, defense attorneys and academics, moderated by [Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Patricia Fresard] at Wayne State Law School."

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran in the Macomb County Legal News.

Jackson County Legal News: Supreme Court justice meets and greets and doesn't miss a pitch

"When Jackson District Judge Joseph Filip introduced Michigan Supreme Court Judge David Viviano at the fall Jackson County Bar Association event, Filip jokingly referred to the Detroit Tigers game starting at 8:10, less than an hour away.... And the 70 people who attended the dinner didn't miss a pitch as Viviano's speech and Q&A was completed within a timely 30 minutes."

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: Veterans court for Allegan, Van Buren and Barry counties may begin this year

"A three-county special court for veterans may be operational before Jan. 1. The Allegan County Board of Commissioners earlier this month formally accepted a one-year, \$108,095 grant from the State Court Administrative Office to establish a veterans court whose jurisdiction includes Allegan, Van Buren and Barry counties."

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Murder victim's mother: resentencings stir old emotions

"Matthew Landry's mother says learning that her son's two killers will return to court for re-sentencings has been 'extremely hard' on her and her family.... The pair were convicted in the 2009 murder of the 21-year-old Chesterfield Township resident. But a 2012 U.S. Supreme Court ruling sent them back to Macomb County Circuit Court in Mount Clemens for second sentencings."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Oakland Press: Juvenile Macomb County killers to get new sentences

[Full story](#)

Midland Daily News: Midland County to aid with funds for youth intervention specialist

"Community Mental Health of Central Michigan has seen a reduction in funds, forcing Midland County to make provisions to assist with funding a youth intervention specialist. 'The YIS has been with us for 12 years and the funding was pulled back by Community Mental Health,' said Midland County Probate Judge Dorene S. Allen. 'So this is our way of readjusting the Child Care Fund so we can still have the YIS at the court.' "

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Midland Daily News: Our view: Midland County's youth specialist program successful, worth saving

[Full story](#)

Midland Daily News: Midland County uses two therapies to treat juveniles

"The term 'wraparound' brings visions of an ornate porch spanning two sides of a Victorian house or someone tightly wrapped in a colorful, warm afghan. But for those who work with juvenile offenders, it's a treatment program that helps with rehabilitation.... 'The idea of wraparound services is to involve the people who have the most influence on a child's behavior,' said Midland County Probate Judge Dorene S. Allen."

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Winners of 2013 'Laddy' awards announced by LAD

"Legal Aid and Defender Association Inc. (LAD) has announced the winners of its 2013 'Laddy' awards honoring members of the legal community for their pro bono service to LAD clients: ... Friend of LAD—Oakland County 43rd District Court Judge Charles G. Goedert.... The awards will be presented Thursday, Nov. 21, at 3 p.m. in the historic chief judge's courtroom of the Theodore Levin United States Courthouse, 231 W. Lafayette St. in Detroit."

[Full story](#)

Saginaw News: Michigan Supreme Court rules in-trial shackles were justified for convicted Saginaw murderer nicknamed after 1920s mobster

"The Michigan Supreme Court has reinstated the convictions of a convicted murder nicknamed after a 1920s-era mobster, ruling that a judge was justified in forcing him to wear shackles during a 2010 trial. Based on the statements that Saginaw County Circuit Judge Robert L. Kaczmarek placed on the record in April, the high court in September reversed the Michigan Court of Appeals' 2010 decision to reverse Charles H. Arthur's convictions."

[Full story](#)

Saginaw News: Re-trial begins for Saginaw man accused of fatally beating neighbor over \$5 debt

"A second trial has begun for a Saginaw man charged in the January 2011 homicide of his neighbor. Four months after the Michigan Court of Appeals reversed Bradford S. Mitchell's second-degree murder conviction, attorneys on Wednesday, Oct. 23, began selecting a jury in Mitchell's re-trial."

[Full story](#)

SBM Blog: Governor Appoints Audrey Van Alst To 84th District Court

"Governor Snyder has appointed Audrey Van Alst, director of the Friend of the Court for Wexford and Missaukee counties, as judge of the 84th district court. She succeeds Judge David Hogg, who retired. The appointment is for a term expiring at the end of 2014."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

WFQX-TV(32)/Cadillac: Governor Snyder Appoints New 84th District Court Judge

[Full story](#)

Note: The article also ran on WWTW/WWUP-TV 9&10 News/Cadillac.